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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Tsuruo, et al.) Group Art Unit 163
Appl. No. : 09/221,931)
Filed : December 28, 1998)
For : **TELOMERASE INHIBITOR**)
Examiner : Borin, M.)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a request for filing of a Continued Prosecution Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) for U.S. Application No. 09/221,931. In response to the Advisory Action mailed November 15, 2001, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the following amendments and consider the following arguments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 11 and 20 as shown below. For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims are shown.

11. (Four times amended) A method of inhibiting telomerase activity comprising a step of contacting cells exhibiting telomerase activity with a telomerase inhibitor comprising a catechin to maintain a concentration of the catechin contacting the cells higher than a concentration which can be reached by oral administration of the catechin.

17. The method according to Claim 11, wherein the telomerase inhibitor comprises a green tea extract containing a catechin.

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